Independence Charter School - West

Campus Safe Zone Policy

In order to provide a public education, regardless of a child’s or family member’s immigration status, subject to any applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, ordinance or court decision, Independence Charter School – West (“ICSW”) shall abide by the following conduct:

1. ICSW personnel shall not inquire about or record a student’s or a family member’s immigration status, and pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”), shall not disclose, without parental consent, the immigration status of any student to any third party for any reason other than for a legitimate educational purpose.

2. Any communication to federal agencies or officials initiated by a school or school personnel concerning confidential information about a student or a student’s family member, including but not limited to: information about gender identity; sexual orientation; status as a survivor of domestic violence; survivor of sexual assault; crime witness; recipient of public assistance; actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status; national origin; school discipline record; and all information included in an individual’s or household’s income tax records, is prohibited, unless permission is granted by the student or student’s parent or guardian.

3. ICSW shall refuse all voluntary information sharing with immigration agents across all aspects of ICSW to the fullest extent possible under the law.

4. Any request by immigration agents for information or to access the ICSW school site shall be initially denied and immediately forwarded to the CEO/Principal for review and a decision on whether to reverse the denial and allow access to the site, and/or a decision on whether the information will ensure ICSW compliance with Plyler v. Doe and other applicable laws. The request must be provided with adequate notice so that the CEO/Principal can take steps to provide for the emotional and physical safety of its students and staff.

   a. Should an immigration agent request access to the ICSW school site, the CEO/Principal shall ask for the immigration agent’s credentials, ask the agent why the agent is requesting access, and ask to see a warrant signed by a federal or state Judge.

   b. Immigration agents must provide written authority from ICE instructing them to enter ICSW property and for what purpose as well as a warrant signed by a federal or state Judge which specifies the name of the person under arrest.
5. ICSW will not enter into any agreement with any state or local law enforcement agency, ICE, or any other federal agency for the enforcement of federal immigration law, except as required by law.

6. ICSW and its staff, faculty, employees, and campus police will not honor any ICE detainers or requests.

7. ICSW personnel shall treat all students equitably in the receipt of all school services, including but, not limited to, the free and reduced lunch program, transportation, and educational instruction.